IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as set forth below in marked-up form. In accordance with the revised amendment format, a clean copy of the claims has been omitted.

1. (Currently Amended) A tape cassette storing case for storing a tape cassette comprising:

a cubic body fitted with lateral walls~~,~~;

a lid body ~~which is~~ fitted with lateral walls and put on said cubic body~~,~~; and

a junction member for constituting one of the lateral walls of said lid body in linkage with said cubic body and said lid body via hinging means; wherein

said tape cassette comprises a shell internally accommodating a tape-supplying reel and a tape take-up reel; ~~and~~

said tape cassette storing case further ~~comprising~~ comprises a pair of cylindrical members ~~which~~ that are vertically disposed on a bottom plate of said cubic body by way of being idly inserted in hub holes of said tape-supplying reel and said tape take-up reel respectively; ~~wherein~~

each of said hub holes comprises~~;~~ a driving pawl hole having an inner peripheral surface formed with a reel-driving pawl~~,~~ and a reference hole ~~which is~~ formed in concentricity with said driving pawl hole and provided with ~~such~~ a diameter smaller than that of said driving pawl hole; ~~and~~

said pair of cylindrical members are respectively formed to be of such a height so as ~~enough~~ to arrive at said reference hole;

a plurality of slits are formed at least at tip portions of said pair of cylindrical members along a height direction;

said junction member comprises an externally projected substantially arc-form curved surface portion disposed between a pair of hinging means, said curval surface portion being elastically deformable;

a pair of identical substantially arc-form ribs are formed on an internal surface of each longitudinal-directional end;

a bottom plate of said cubic body and a ceiling plate of said lid body are respectively thinly extended outwardly from the lateral walls of said cubic body and also from the lateral walls of said lid body; and

tip end portions of said externally extended bottom and ceiling plates respectively constitute elastically deformable external peripheral edges by way of being inwardly bent into a substantially elliptic circular arc curved surface or substantially circular-arc form curved surface.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A tape cassette storing case for storing a tape cassette comprising:

a cubic body fitted with lateral ~~wall~~walls~~,~~;

a lid body ~~which is~~ fitted with lateral walls and put on said cubic body~~,~~; and

a junction member for constituting one of the lateral walls of said lid body in linkage with said cubic body and said lid body via hinging means; wherein

~~the~~ said tape cassette ~~comprising~~ comprises a shell internally accommodating a tape-supplying reel and a tape take-up reel;

said tape cassette storing case further ~~comprising~~ comprises a single unit or a plurality of elastically deformable projected surface portions that are integrally molded with resinous material; ~~wherein~~

said single or plural projected surface portions contain space within inwardly projected projections at least on ~~the~~ a part of a bottom plate of said cubic body or on ~~the~~ a part of a ceiling plate of said lid body; ~~and~~

said single or plural projected surface portions jointly support said tape cassette by way of coming into contact with said shell of said tape cassette or at least one of said reels;

a pair of cylindrical members idly inserted in corresponding hub holes of said reels are vertically disposed on an upper surface of said projected surface portions; and

a plurality of slits are formed at least at a tip portion of said cylindrical members in a height direction.

4. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 3, further comprising:

a single unit or a plurality of projection portions that respectively project themselves in ~~the~~ an inward direction from the upper surface of said projected surface portions and come into contact with ~~a~~ the shell~~shall~~ of said tape cassette.

5. (Original) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 4, wherein

said projection portions individually comprise an annular-form rib member that is internally filled with elastic material.

6. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 4, wherein:

said ceiling plate comprises a single-stage of said projected surface ~~portion~~portions;

said projection portions are formed at four corner sections on the inner surface of said single-stage projected surface portion; and

said tape cassette storing case further ~~comprising~~ comprises a card-inserting pocket formed on the inner surface of said ceiling plate by way of peripherally fusing a transparent sheet or film on the inner surface of said ceiling plate without fusing substantially the center portion of said transparent sheet or film~~,~~ by way of utilizing said projections for the positioning thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 3, wherein:

said ceiling plate comprises a single stage of said projected surface ~~portion~~portions; and

a projected base member is disposed on an external surface of said bottom plate at ~~such a~~an inward position ~~inner~~ from externally stepped peripheral edges of said projected surface portion.

8. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 3, wherein

said projected surface portion comprises two or more than two ~~of~~ multiple-stage projected surface portions.

9. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 8, wherein

said multiple-stage projected surface portions are formed in concentricity with an opening for allowing the insertion of a reel base of said tape cassette to be stored; ~~and~~

the uppermost part of said multiple-stage projected surface portions is inserted in said reel-base ~~inserting~~ insertion opening; and

the upper surface of said uppermost projected surface portion comes into contact with said reel to hold said tape cassette.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 12, wherein

~~a~~ the width of said slits formed at the tip end portions of said cylindrical members ~~increase~~ increases as ~~a~~ the distance to the tip portion of said cylindrical members becomes shorter.

14. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 12, wherein

a plurality of externally swollen and substantially rounded portions are formed at the tip end of said cylindrical members.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The tape cassette storing case ~~for storing a tape cassette comprising~~according to Claim 3, wherein

~~a cubic body fitted with lateral walls,~~

~~a lid body which is fitted with lateral walls and put on said cubic body, and~~

~~a junction member for constituting one of~~ the ~~lateral walls of said lid body in linkage with said cubic body and said lid body via hinging means; wherein~~

~~said tape cassette comprises a shell internally accommodating a tape supplying reel and a tape take-up reel; wherein~~

at least one of said lateral walls on ~~the~~ a part of said cubic body comprises lateral wall members and projected wall members upwardly projecting themselves from a predetermined position of ~~the~~ an upper edge of said lateral wall members; and

at least the upper edge portion of said projected wall members is formed by way of inwardly facing to said cubic body.

16. (Original) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 15, further comprising:

a plurality of projection portions formed on the internal surface of the upper edge of said projected wall members.

17. (Currently Amended) A tape cassette storing case for storing a tape cassette comprising:

a cubic body fitted with lateral walls~~,~~;

a lid body ~~which is~~ fitted with lateral walls and put on said cubic body~~,~~; and

a junction member for constituting one of said lateral walls of said lid body in linkage with said cubic body and said lid body via hinging means; wherein

said tape cassette comprises a shell internally accommodating a tape-supplying reel and a tape take-up reel; ~~wherein~~

said junction member comprises an externally projected substantially arc-form curved surface portion disposed between a pair of hinging means, ~~the~~ said portion being elastically deformable; and

a pair of identical substantially arc-form ribs are formed on ~~the~~ an internal surface of each longitudinal-directional ~~both ends~~send.

18. (Currently Amended) A tape cassette storing case for storing a tape cassette comprising:

a cubic body fitted with lateral walls~~,~~;

a lid body ~~which is~~ fitted with lateral walls and put on said cubic body~~,~~; and

a junction member for constituting one of the lateral walls of said lid body in linkage with said cubic body and said lid body via hinging means; wherein

said tape cassette comprises a shell internally accommodating a tape-supplying reel and a tape take-up reel; ~~wherein~~

a bottom plate of said cubic body and a ceiling plate of said lid body are respectively thinly extended ~~outer~~ outwardly from the lateral walls of said cubic body and also from the lateral walls of said lid body; and

tip end portions of said externally extended bottom and ceiling plates respectively constitute elastically deformable external peripheral edges by way of being inwardly bent into a substantially elliptic circular arc curved surface or substantially circular-arc form curved surface.

19. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 18, further comprising:

an inhibiting wall vertically erected at an inward position ~~inner~~ from the curved surface of said tip end portion of the external peripheral edge portion on ~~the~~ a part of said bottom surface by way of being close to the external surface of the lateral walls of said lid body.

20. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 18, further comprising:

a single unit or a plurality of side locking members on ~~the~~ a side opposite from said junction member by way of omitting said external peripheral edges; wherein

a flap plate connected to said bottom plate via hinging means is laid on and engaged with a lateral wall member of said lid body at an inward position ~~inner~~ from a tip edge of said external peripheral edge member; and

double locking is effected by combining said side locking member with a lateral-wall locking member for locking the lateral walls of said cubic body and the laterals walls of said lid body.

21. (Currently Amended) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 20, wherein

said flap plate forms a substantially trapezoidal form having an edge side on ~~the~~ a part of said hinging means ~~being~~ that is longer than ~~the other~~another edge side of an external edge opposite from the longer edge side; and

a plurality of stopper members are formed along lateral walls of said lid body for engaging said flap plate therewith.

22. (Original) The tape cassette storing case according to Claim 21, wherein

a plurality of recessed portions are formed by way of partially omitting corner portions between said lateral walls fitted with said stopper members and said ceiling plate of said lid body.

23. (Currently Amended) A tape cassette storing case for storing a tape cassette comprising:

a cubic body fitted with lateral walls~~,~~;

a lid body ~~which is~~ fitted with lateral walls and put on said cubic body~~,~~; and

a junction member for constituting one of the lateral surfaces of said lid body in linkage with said cubic body and said lid body via hinging means; wherein

said tape cassette comprises a shell internally accommodating a tape-supplying reel and a tape take-up reel;~~ wherein:~~ and

said tape cassette storing case further comprises:

a single unit or a plurality of elastically deformable projected surface portions that individually contain space in each ~~of~~ inwardly oriented ~~projections~~projection at least formed on ~~the~~ a bottom plate of said cubic body or on ~~the~~ a ceiling plate of said lid body, said elastically deformable projected surface portions jointly supporting said tape cassette by way of coming into contact with said shell of said tape cassette or at least either of said reels;

a pair of cylindrical members ~~which are~~ vertically erected on ~~the~~ an upper surface of said projected surface portions to be idly inserted in corresponding hub holes of said reels;

a plurality of projected wall members that individually project themselves at least from predetermined positions of ~~the~~ an upper edge of one of said lateral walls of said cubic body,

each of said projected wall members being formed with a projected portion on ~~the~~ an inner surface at the upper edge thereof;

elastically deformable external peripheral edge members that are externally thinly extended from said bottom plate and said ceiling plate ~~outer~~ outwardly from the lateral walls of said cubic body and the lateral walls of said lid body, a tip portion of said extended peripheral edges being inwardly bent into a substantially elliptic circular-arc form curved surface or a substantially circular-arc form curved surface; and

junction members comprising an externally projecting elastically deformable substantially circular-arc form ~~elastically deformable~~ curved surface extending between a pair of hinges and a plurality of identical substantially circular-arc form rib members that are formed on ~~the~~ an internal surface side along each longitudinal ~~both ends~~end, said junction members being integrally formed with resinous material.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the drawings by entering the enclosed corrected drawings, labeled as "Replacement Sheets" and attached hereto in Appendix I.